

THE
KAPPA ALPHA THETA,

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THE KAPPA ALPHA THETA.

Vol. XIII.

JANUARY, 1899.

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The First District Convention of Beta District. Kappa Alpha Theta.

In fraternity organization the convention idea meets two very vital requirements. It affords the only practical means of perfecting and strengthening the national policies and systems; it offers the only tangible method for securing close ties of personal interest between chapters. And firm unity of the parts, effects harmony in the whole.

With a view particularly to the latter need, the question of "District Conventions or Travelling District Presidents," has been agitated in the Theta JOURNAL, since the National Convention of '97. Gamma had already taken the initiative in the matter of province assemblies. But the feasibility of such a plan for Alpha and Beta, as discussed by the delegates at Madison resulted in no definite measure. Obstacles of time and distance looked formidable and the idea was left unshapen, to be brought to practical realization by the officers of Beta District. Their earnest efforts and untiring energy supported by the generous hospitality of Tau Chapter, made the execution of the project possible. The possibilities for the accomplishment of definite and active measures, at a District Convention are limited somewhat, from the fact that all measures not eminently of district concern, must be regarded merely as suggestions and await the final stamp of approval or rejection at the hands of the National.

But of the benefits and lasting good to be gained socially,

of enthusiasm and interest engendered by personal intercourse with sisters from neighboring chapters, too much cannot be said. Certainly the fact that Beta District voted for permanent biennial conventions is gratifying evidence of the success of this, the first one.

At nine o'clock on the morning of October nineteenth in the fraternity hall of Tau Chapter, the First Beta District Convention, was called to order by the President, Myra M. Post. The meetings were held from 9 until 12, and from 2 until 4, the succeeding days. The thirteen active chapters, and four of the alumni chapters were represented by one, two, in a few cases four, delegates. The personal visit and examination by the President, into a few of the chapters, gave her report great interest, and gratifying assurance of the growth and strength of the district. An active charter had been granted at University of Illinois, Champaign, and alumni charters at Greencastle, Ind., Indianapolis, Ind., and Columbus, Ohio. Closer relations between the chapters by means of correspondence and personal visits when possible, was urged. Also a strong recommendation for better provision in carrying on the business of the district was made.

The report of the Secretary and Treasurer showed a substantial balance in the treasury after the delegates' expenses were paid. The fund for the convention was created by a special tax, levied by the vote of the chapters, last June. She urged the enforcement of powers already expressed in the Constitution, leaving the matter of district assessments in the hands and to the discretion of district officers.

The chapter reports were as helpfully suggestive as any division of the convention program. Our President, in the delivery of these reports, held before us the wisdom and duty of sincere and frank expression. We had met to make known to each other, not alone our victories and encouragements but to admit weaknesses and puzzling problems, if we had them,—to find solution for them by mutual advice and experience. And this purpose seemed to be in the mind of every delegate.

The reports made evident a lack of uniformity in the size of the chapters. Yet it was not judged on the whole a defect; the varied size of the colleges and universities, and number of desirable girls, seeming to make it a matter for chapter regulation. The sense of the chapters, however, was decidedly in favor of moderate numbers. Twelve to sixteen being most popular.

The high standing of Thetas in college work was a marked and most favorable sign. The insistence of many chapters upon this point even to the sacrifice of social pleasures was worthy of heartiest endorsement especially in this day of crowded college calendars.

Inter-fraternity contract in regard to time of bidding, seemed varied in point of success. It is evidently one of many subjects of fraternity interest, which must be left to the wise discretion of individual chapters.

The papers and discussions on topics of general fraternity education, were marked by unusual excellence, made more valuable when brought to a form which admitted of definite vote.

The desirability of inter-fraternity societies was almost unanimously denied.

The sense of the convention was strongly opposed to the wearing of the pin or pledge pin, by any other than initiated and pledged members of Kappa Alpha Theta.

The following recommendations were referred to the Grand Council, to be acted upon, if seen fit by them, at the convention of 1899.

That the fraternity catalogue be extended to embrace a brief and summary account of the general policy and aim of Kappa Alpha Theta. [Meaning such facts as would interest and be suitable for young women to know, who are about to enter the fraternity.]

The committee on Fraternity Education recommends that the second week in April, be the regular date for the holding of the permanent annual examination.

There were also several suggestions regarding the initiation service.

A motion for permanent biennial conventions in Beta District was carried unanimously and an invitation for the convention of 1900 was received from Kappa Chapter with the privilege of considering other invitations reserved to the officers.

The election of officers resulted in the choice of Miss Post as President ; Mrs. Holmes, Delta Alumni, Secretary and Treasurer ; Miss Lee of Kappa, Vice-President. The convention was particularly grateful to Miss Post for accepting again the office which entails so much thoughtful care and responsibility, and which in view of other duties, implies greatest unselfishness to the fraternity. Her ability and tact in presiding together with a sweetness and womanly dignity impressed every one who met her. We wish to express again, for the fraternity, the appreciation and gratitude which every one felt was her due.

Tau chapter seemed especially capable and happy in performing the duties which were hers, as hostess. The delegates and visitors numbered about thirty, all of whom were entertained in Theta homes, where warm and most cordial hospitality greeted us, and added inestimably to the charm of our half week there.

At least half of the delegates reached Chicago the day before the convention opened, October 20, and spending the day in the city, saw it in Peace Jubilee dress. Though a drizzling rain detracted from the effect which might have been produced by attendant crowds, and much be-decked, be-flagged buildings.

We were met through the day by members of the local chapter who escorted us across Chicago, then by suburban train to Evanston. A beautiful town which might fitly be called "the little city of homes," such a refined atmosphere quiet content and charm pervades the place.

A thoroughly informal reception Tuesday evening in the fraternity hall, served to introduce the guests to the chapter and to each other.

The hall itself is conducive to good song and Theta spirit, decorated with much black and gold, Theta banners and pictures. Attractive rugs and screens contributed a sense of cosiness and precluded any suggestion of formality. The latter part of the evening was enlivened by an hour of song, Tau introducing several new and very clever ones.

The courtesies extended to Kappa Alpha Theta from other fraternities at Northwestern were very kind and complimentary. Enjoyable not alone for their social quality but for the broadening influence which contact with other Greeks must give. For some of us it was an occasion of meeting young women whose fraternities are not represented at the home university. Thursday afternoon, Gamma Phi received us very pleasantly in the Guild Rooms of Library Hall a most attractive place for an afternoon tea.

The same evening was marked by the reception of Delta Alumni, given in Miss Miller's beautiful home. The guests numbering five hundred, included the chapter patronesses, many of the faculty and their wives, in addition to Greeks of a large number of other fraternities. The beautiful rooms with decorations in palms and greens formed a handsome background for the assemblage. A small reception room was made very artistic in the arrangement of exquisite flowers which other fraternities had sent in compliment to Tau and Delta chapters. The entertainment was characterized by a very cordial and gracious hospitality, the members of the local chapters, lending themselves most unselfishly to the duties as hostesses. The interest and enthusiasm taken in Theta, by professors and townspeople and the cordiality shown in receiving the delegates and guests, was as gratifying as it was delightful.

The business sessions were concluded at noon on Friday and the remainder of the day was spent very delightfully in a social way. Beta Theta Pi had invited us to attend their exercises in celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the chapter's founding. The invitation was accepted by about thirty of Tau chapter and visitors. The exercises

took place in the University Chapel and were extremely interesting, addresses by President Rogers, prominent alumni, and members of the present chapter, contributing to the enjoyment of the program.

We withdrew toward five o'clock, to be the guests of Alpha Phi for afternoon tea. The affair was given at the home of one of the young women and was delightful in every way.

Tired though we were from the duties and gaieties of the week, every one lingered, who found it possible, for the last evening and goodbyes at the home of Miss Scott. Very informal it was and very charming, with dim glow from red candelabra making last talks and Theta songs wonderfully fascinating. Regret in parting from friends so newly made and loved made it difficult to express what was in the heart of every girl,—sincerest gratitude and appreciation to the Thetas of Tau and Delta, for their thoughtful, wise and unselfish care for our every pleasure and comfort.

FLORENCE LOUISE BELL, *Alpha Gamma.*

After Rushing Season.

The last girl had put on the colors that morning and everybody had discussed with everybody else all the interesting points about the event, so it came about that the chairman of the entertainment committee and I were going down the hill together in silence when she exclaimed in a relieved tone,—“ Well, I certainly am glad rushing season is over ! Now frat. duties are done, we'll have a chance for something else.” I said nothing for I was very meek, as a freshman and did not think it proper to criticize my elder,—even though she did abbreviate in flagrant violation of all canons of propriety,—but the tenor of the remark gave me a feeling that something was wrong somewhere. And ever since those few words have been simmering in some obscure corner of my brain until now when the spirit (assisted by

the editor) moved me to write something for the Journal, I find that out of the thoughtless speech of the chairman of the entertainment committee has been brewed quite a little homily.

Rushing has so long been tacitly regarded as the most important part of a chapter's life that a general disposition is making itself felt to consider that the year's work is done when the new girls are initiated.

This attitude is becoming noticeable, not only in our own organization, but in many other of the woman's fraternities. The assumption is, however, not to be wondered at. It is a shining example of the reaction of the public opinion of an order upon the members of that order. Rushing season is of course, the time when the fraternity comes most prominently into attention and relations with the world. It is natural that outsiders should believe this comet-like appearance to be the most important part of a fraternity's career, but it is a bit curious that the members should incline to the same thought.

In mine own humble opinion the most important duty of the year is yet to come. Rushing season simply furnishes the raw materials to work with in our endeavor to build up what we believe to be the noblest type of womanhood. Of course we cannot too carefully scrutinize the offered material, but that is far from being the whole duty of a fraternity girl. There are very few "born Thetas". Most good ones are constructed with infinite pains on the part of the chapter and of the girl herself; and even in the case of the apparently "born so" a few strokes of polish will not come amiss.

For what is, to my mind at least, the chief duty and aim of a chapter is the assimilation of this raw material, the amalgamation of these diverse parts into a perfect whole. I should even lay down the rule that the chapter is the strongest which most easily and quickly assimilates the new material.

One of the phases of this assimilating process is the in-dueing with what is called "esprit de corps". The first

act of this in fraternity life is to change the novice from a barbarian whose first thought is for personal good to a modern Greek whose interests are identified with those of the fraternity. And let me digress a moment here to say that just here lies what is, according to my belief, one of the strongest arguments for the existence of fraternities. No matter if the circle be small, it is the principle that counts and the substitution of an altruistic spirit for an egoistic, the habit of subordinating the individual good to the common welfare is a most invaluable trait in the modern man or woman.

This does not mean the effacement of the personality of anyone. Mr. Mackensie in his Manual of Ethics says that "the first requisite for the development of the virtues is to unite ourselves with others in the pursuit of some end or ideal." And Goethe claims that "you cannot be a whole unless you join a whole." In my own experience it is the weak character, the nondescript and lukewarm, whom it is almost impossible to assimilate or develop.

For the further development of this corps spirit it is important that the initiate be instructed in her chapter's policy and habits, and the fraternity etiquette which obtains in the college.

And here comes the need for a certain amount of supervision, enough, at least, to keep her from blunders and to protect the chapter from mistakes of hers that may harm it in the eyes of the world. For the words of the novice carry quite as much weight as those of the wisest Senior.

It seems to me that it would be wise for a chapter to make certain requirements of its newly initiated. For instance, 1st, never to allow themselves to be drawn into a discussion with outsiders of the position of the fraternity upon any matters except such as they have been instructed in ; 2nd, never to discuss, especially in a critical tone, the other fraternities. Of course, these rules cannot be cast iron ; they must be varied to suit the changes of etiquette in the various colleges and the varying conditions in any one college. But

some suggestion of that kind would go far to train the novice into keeping fraternity matters to herself which is an excellent habit to form.

Then before the novice is allowed to rush she should have explained to her the attitude of the fraternity toward rushing and the policy of her particular chapter. Unless this is done she is sure to expatiate upon the bad points of the rivals or commit some equally heinous sin against good taste and fraternity morals. We all of us try to be fair, above-board, and well-bred in our rushing, but to get that reputation, the chapter must look to the rushing of her newly initiated.

But after all, the greatest part of this cultivation of "corps spirit" is done by the chance word and the working of that natural instinct of imitation which is present in every one.

There is another phase to this process of assimilation which I will only touch lightly since it has been discussed before. No girl is completely a Theta in spirit until she has a thorough knowledge of her organization. There has been too much laxness in this respect with the natural consequence of turning out half-formed members instead of the well-rounded ones that we should produce. But if the wise and practical suggestions of the Education Committee be followed as it is to be hoped they will, we shall soon remedy that evil. To have the assimilation complete, the initiate must know the history of the fraternity, and the facts about the government and publications, and it is this general knowledge which added to the "corps spirit" in its fullest form makes the fully cultured and influential fraternity woman we are proud to name as a Kappa Alpha Theta.

C. G. L.

The Back Number Speaks.

It's just a little sermon I wish to preach this evening, Mesdames, and I want you to listen as if you were interested. My text is a story,—the whole of a story from "Ave to

Vale," and this is just as I heard it: "She came to college and we liked her from the first. We had known her brother and all his friends, as girls learn to know men, in a small college, and the girl was a niece, too, of one of our professors. We saw her constantly for three weeks, and it was evident how much she cared for our chapter. We were elated of course, jubilant. We were her chosen friends and Pledge Day was drawing near. But we found that she was going to flunk in German, possibly too in Mathematics, and some of us rose up and said: 'Girls, it mustn't be! We can't take in a girl on the ragged edge of a condition. We owe it to the fraternity, to the older girls, to keep up the standard of scholarship they established, and we aren't any too near that standard now.' Well, there wasn't anything else to be done, and we saw no more of her. It was a wrench and we were sorry but it was the only wise thing."

"And the Freshman?" I asked.

"Oh, that was what proved our wisdom. The Freshman flunked hopelessly. They said she went on from bad to worse in her work, and seemed not to care."

That's all the story, and the moral is in every word, a moral you all know as well as I, for it is not far to seek. Who spoiled that Freshman's chances for work? Who, then, for their own fault, not hers, spoiled her hope of peace and happiness in college? Don't you all know a duplicate of this story, and don't your hearts cry out against the distortion of a system that can so torture and mangle affection and confidence and friendship, whilst it labels itself "Strictly high-class, every action warranted wise and creditable?"

It is not for nothing that "your duty to your neighbor" has the longest and hardest answer in the Catechism. It is in the actualization of the straight-flung words of the answer that men live, in indifference to them that men fail to live. And so it is with a fraternity. Are we any the less our brothers' keepers, forsooth, because we, advocates and representatives of the fraternity system, have pledged ourselves to each other. "It but intensifies and makes sacred the obli-

gation," you will say, and that is the answer by which the whole fraternity system will live, if you let it live.

What is this deepened obligation? What *are* the responsibilities within a chapter? Dearly beloved brethren—and the sermonizer is leaning over his pulpit now—it isn't for himself that a fraternity member exists; it isn't for itself that a chapter exists, a fraternity, nor yet the whole summa summarum of fraternities. It isn't for itself that anything worthy lives, and the fraternity system *is* a worthy one—with all my heart and mind I say it. But better, far better, it should perish outright than that we should cripple its strength and deform its beauty. I am not going to tell you what your fraternity responsibilities are, dearly beloved, the strength you must be, the gaps you must fill. Ask the freshmen who love you what they are looking to you for day by day, if you are in honest doubt. You will never get the answer that come once from senior lips as she summed up cause and effect: "There aren't any responsibilities. To be with congenial people and have fun when work is over—that is why fraternities exist, and I don't see that any other question comes in."

Just a word more, and the Back Number will close and slide quietly back upon her shelf. What preparation has that Senior made, living in that attitude, for life and strength, and the friendship that endures while life and strength endure? With a spirit like that, would a man "give up his life for his friend?" Yet, we, in our wisdom, call ourselves, not *amici* but *fratres*, and we believe in ourselves!

When a Freshman joins a fraternity she joins in spirit with all she cares for most, all she would imitate in the day's life. She reaches after loyalty and sincerity, and strength in body and mind and soul,—the "high-erected thought in the heart of courtesy." If it be there, and ye find it, O ye Freshmen, hold fast the God-gift and hold sacred its responsibilities, that the true standard of your fraternity and of all fraternities, as it is the standard of humanity, may be passed on unsullied into the years to come. And remember,

in each one of her children is a fraternity justified or condemned, in each fraternity all her fellows.

G. W., *Iota*, '98.

Our Attitude to Non-Fraternity Girls.

In the JOURNAL the question has been raised "Are the advantages of the fraternity, is the fraternity's influence, is the individual's influence necessarily different with "inside" and "outside" girls? The problem of how to erase the lines between fraternity and non-fraternity girls is a difficult one and I do not pretend to offer a solution, but I think that the above question must be answered in the affirmative; for if the influence of the fraternity was no greater over members than over non-members it would certainly fail in one of its chief aims. We hope that the bonds of Theta are so strong that every girl must feel, whether she will or no, the helping guidance of the sisters bound to her so closely by fraternity ties. For these reasons as well as because of our closer acquaintance with one another we must, I think, admit that the influence of the fraternity, as well as of its individual members is stronger over those within the circle than those without.

If we grant that this is so we must raise another question "Should it be so?" and this is by far the more difficult to answer. Let us look at it first from within. The girls whom we ask to join us are those we think will be most congenial in tastes and in work, those who will work with us to raise themselves and their fraternity higher toward Theta's ideal. But we must not think that those who are left are necessarily uncongenial. There are many girls who would doubtless make good Theta's were they once within the chapter but whom for various reasons it does not seem best to take in. Now perhaps there is some girl in the chapter who is especially drawn to one of these non-fraternity girls; in that case what should be her attitude?

In unity there is strength and the more closely the mem-

bers of the chapter are bound together the stronger the chapter becomes ; and the members should be, if rightly chosen, so congenial that they will find their bosom friends within, not without the chapter. If a girl is truly loyal she thinks every day of how much her fraternity means to her and there are innumerable instances in little every day occurrences where a mere word from or to a sister Theta is a wonderful help and works more good than we imagine at the time of speaking. Manifestly if the Theta is constantly with a non-fraternity girl this helpful word cannot be spoken and the opportunity is lost. The conclusion is then that for the best good of the fraternity the members should make their most intimate friends from those who are bound to them more closely than anyone outside the mystic circle can possibly be. Of course this is not limited to our fraternity by any means, for what is true of one is true of all and I use this merely as an illustration.

Although we recognize how much this means it would certainly be most unfair to answer the question in only one of its phases. We have regarded it first in a purely selfish light but the reader must not misunderstand me. I have said that for the best good of the fraternity, its members should find their most intimate friends within the chapter but I have taken pains to say *most* intimate. The principal objection to fraternities in colleges where they are opposed, is that they make cliques and cause ill-feeling between members and non-members. It is just this that we, in striving for the best interests of our fraternity should guard against. We should be exceedingly narrow and ungenerous if we confined ourselves merely to our fraternity sisters. We should strive to make friends with every one, every where, for no one is more disagreeable to have about than a girl so selfishly wrapped up in her own few friends that she cannot be friendly to others. The broader one's sphere the broader one's self and as we are striving toward a broad and noble womanhood, let us begin here. With our sisters in the bonds for our most intimate friends let us extend our friend-

ship beyond so that it may be felt within the entire college as an influence for good, and let us endeavor in especial to erase any distinct lines which exist between members and non-members or at least make them dotted lines. The non-fraternity girl must be made to feel that she is not hopelessly an "outsider." Sometimes she does feel so because of a word dropped carelessly which calls to her mind the fact that she is not one of the "favored few." There recently came to my notice the remark of one of these girls who said that she had no friend in whom she could trust, she did not know to whom she could go when in perplexity. Something must be wrong in such a case. In a small college especially it often happens that some one of the non-fraternity girls finds among them no one who is thoroughly congenial or even enough so that she can be made a confidential friend. In a case of doubt what is she to do? Let us hope that the eyes of a Theta may be keen enough to see beyond the narrow limits of the chapter and her heart large enough to respond to the needs she sees. In this way we shall come the nearer to our ideal that every wearer of our badge shall be a pure and noble woman ready to aid and uplift not only her sisters in Greekdom but among womankind as well. If we are careful to look sharply and see the needs and then to minister we should soon arrive at the happy stage where the non-fraternity girls would say of one of our chapters; "It is not a clique. Its members are loyal to their fraternity but they are loyal to all their friends and they make us feel that they are our friends and friends in whom we can trust." Keeping our fraternity first in our hearts let us bear this in mind; it is not a solution, but perhaps it may be suggestion.

M. N., *Lambda*.

ALUMNAE DEPARTMENT.

Kappa Alpha Theta Club of Southern California.

If we may avail ourselves of the privileges of an Alumnae chapter, we would like to tell you of the progress we have made since the last issue of the JOURNAL. We feel that much has been accomplished. We are better organized, better equipped, our work is definitely arranged, and we have welcomed two new members to the club—Minerva Cook and Minnie Miltimore, both of Omicron.

We realize that what we have undertaken is not mere child's play, but at the end of our first year, we hope to understand, more fully than ever before, what Kappa Alpha Theta means. It certainly has a meaning for the Alumnae as well as for the girls in the active chapters.

Our November meeting was devoted to the review and discussion of the last JOURNAL. The articles were especially helpful and suggestive, and we felt very grateful to the girls, whose task it was to write the chapter letters. No doubt you dreaded it and gave a great sigh of relief when it was finished, but that little glimpse of the old chapter means so much to the absent sister, and perhaps if you knew that your letters were read and appreciated by the "old girls," it might not be such a 'bore'. But I am presuming that you are no better than I was. That is unkind, for we were very naughty "long ago," and if I have misjudged you corresponding editors of the present day, I beg your pardon, most humbly.

At our last meeting, we were very glad to have with us, another representative from Beta—Mrs. John A. Walker, who graduated twenty-two years ago, and is still so loyal and enthusiastic that her mere presence was an inspiration. Our other visitors were Mrs. Stivers and Miss May Curran, both of Omicron. For the last three years, Miss Curran

has been studying art in St. Paul and Chicago, and while in the latter city, was associated with Delta Alumnae.

We hope that all three may meet with us often, and if the balmy air of Southern California tempts any of your number to visit Los Angeles, remember that we meet at two o'clock, on the second Saturday of each month at the Ebell club house. You will be welcomed most heartily.

UNDERGRADUATE DEPARTMENT.

As to chapter houses in general in our experience no girl who has had the privilege of living in the house ever desires to live outside nor will she except under very unusual circumstances leaving out the pleasure side, the girls are brought into closer touch with each other and the fraternity

means more in their lives thereafter for it is

The chapter house question. an influence present at all times. While there seems to be no difference in influence between the "inside" and "outside" girls, the "inside" girl certainly gets more out of her college course just from the chapter house life. Yet the responsibilities which come to the girls do not belong merely to the inside girls. Any financial questions except those relating to the club must be decided by the chapter since it is their house and the training gained here is of great value wherever they may be after college days.

As to the expensiveness of living in a chapter house in our four year's experience with a house, we have found it possible to run a house successfully at no greater expense for room and board than would be required outside. In fact our expenses are much less than those of the majority of students.

We do not claim to have any unusual financial abilities but we are able to more than meet the necessary running expenses of a large house. This of course means when the house is filled. But even when this is not filled at all times, as in case a girl has to leave unexpectedly, perhaps just after the term has begun, we find ways of getting along without extra demands on the individual pocket books. This requires ingenuity and a willingness to help, both of which have always been in abundance.

Some of our best girls are sending themselves through college and surely they could not be expected to live more

expensively than most students. Yet they are in the house and are sometimes helped financially in return for taking charge of some part of the house finances.

To be sure our chapter is larger than many, as the custom is here at Syracuse, but the house accommodates only fourteen besides the chaperone and servants, and with a smaller chapter a smaller house could easily be managed.

We have never taken in a girl for the sake of filling the house and see no need for such a course.

The boarding club is not confined to girls who live in the house. Several who room outside take their meals with us and thus they are kept in close touch with the rest. And many whose homes are in the city take dinners at the house nearly every day. Then on chapter meeting nights we often have the outside girls and city alumnae in to take tea with us and perhaps such means keep out the possible division line.

These suggestions come in considering the question from the individual's standpoint. If the chapter house is considered from the standpoint of the fraternity and the advantages coming to it numerous, other suggestions might be given but all in favor of a house.

LENA L. HOOSE, *Chi.*

"Girls", said the thoughtful girl, as we all settled ourselves comfortably for the usual talk-around, "I have just been thinking how much good these talk-arounds might do us. I do not mean to say that we are not helped by them now, I only meant that they might come to mean so much

more to us. We might use more care in

What shall selecting subjects that would cause us to **we talk about.** think so much more deeply. And, girls, it seems to me we ought to talk of things that would broaden our minds and strengthen us not only in our college life, but in our life after the college days are over.

Sometimes I fear we are so narrow here. We forget there is ever to be any life for us but this happy school life. We do discuss problems that come to us for solution now, and that is quite right. But don't you think we might look forward just a little and try to strengthen ourselves for the *real* life of after-while?

These talk-arounds will, I believe, be the part of our fraternity life that will remain clearest in our memories when these days are over. Here it is that we get closest together. We open our hearts to each other in these talks. Each one of us feels perfectly free to say all that is in her heart on the subject, whatever it be.

From the girl with the dazzling intellect who never feels any hesitancy because she is always ready with brilliant ideas, down to the girl with the still, small voice, who is usually afraid to speak for fear she will interfere with some one else whom she considers wiser than herself—all the girls freely join in the discussion, and all are helped by it.

We are strengthened by giving expression to our own ideas, and our minds are broadened by learning other girls' ideas.

But I just wanted us to try to make them even more beneficial to us, by choosing subjects of more lasting interest. Let us talk of things that will help us not alone as girls in college, but as women-that-are-to-be. Let us try to make these talk-arounds stepping stones to a higher, better, nobler womanhood. Let us make them help us realize our "Theta ideal."

And once more we were launched on one of our more and more helpful talk-arounds.

The other day I met an alumna of a sister fraternity, and we got to talking over fraternity interests in general, and rushing in particular. During our conversation, she said, "Oh, it was so much fun to rush a girl and then drop her.

We used to rush girls whom we did not want, just for fun."

Although the speaker was a member of another fraternity, and we are sure that no **Rushing.** true Theta Chapter would pursue such a course, yet her remark furnished me the text for my little sermon.

The first question that confronts us is, Who is the desirable girl? Of course the ideal girl makes the ideal Theta, but the realization of that ideal is seldom found. Considering the real as she is found, is our Theta girl to be the sweet, pretty maiden who is always so popular, or is she to be the book-worm who cares nothing for society? We all answer, "Neither." We choose the mixture of these two, and as near the ideal as possible.

The next problem is, On what basis are we to carry on our rushing? Some may answer that they do not believe in so-called "rushing", and that brings up the question, What is rushing? Opinions differ on this subject. I believe that we should not monopolize the whole time of the girl with parties and entertainments, but that we should allow her to become acquainted with each of us individually and give her the opportunity of *knowing* us. Serving teas and other little ways by which this may be accomplished, constitute my idea of rushing.

Suppose that after we have invited a girl to tea with us and rushed her to some extent, we discover that she is not in sympathy with us and is not the girl we thought her. What course of action is honorable on our part? One will say that to drop her is dishonorable, that she expects an invitation from us. I do not see why this is true. Our attitude toward a new girl should be such that she thinks of us individually, not as a body, and she should expect nothing from us as a body. To me, extending an invitation to a girl whom we do not really and truly love and desire as a sister, is almost perjury. Perhaps I have put that too strongly. But would not one feel far worse to be taken into the fraternity and then discover that she has no place

there, than she would to be dropped without an invitation?

Then what is the basis of our rushing system? We can give no definite answer. It is a question that must be decided differently in each separate instance. But whatever we decide upon, let us not so distract the minds of our new girls from their studies that they themselves will be ashamed of their class work, and outsiders will at first think that our prospective sisters are not much given to study or work.

We see in almost every magazine something about the fraternity ideal, what it is, and how it can be attained. We should not be satisfied to strive for any but a high ideal and the highest ideal for us is, that of noble womanhood. That the fraternity is capable of accomplishing this development

is evident by the number of eminent **The Fraternity** women of the world who have, at some **Ideal and the** time, been active in fraternity life. This **Ideal Frater-** life in a good fraternity rarely fails to bring **nity.** out the highest and noblest qualities of its

members, to round their characters, to broaden their ideas, and to make them women whose acquaintance is well worth seeking.

There is no reason why the fraternity should not accomplish this. Its very basis is love and true friendship. "The ecstasy of the conviction that there, at least, you are beloved; that there you are understood; that there your errors will meet with gentlest forgiveness; that there your troubles will be smiled away and that there you may be entirely and joyfully yourself," makes life bright, and paves the otherwise "weary way to success." There we find warm and loving hearts willing and anxious to sympathize with us in all our comings and doings, and we receive a blessing from each **dear** sister. Although we cannot all be equally fortunate, yet we can get the benefit of the best from each girl who so unselfishly shares her good fortune.

Notwithstanding the fact that the fraternity girl is so

close to her sisters, the objection, that she associates with those girls alone, should have no grounds for existence. The line should not be so closely drawn as to exclude the friendship of the many worthy girls of other fraternities. If this were so the fraternity could not attain its ideal—the highest development of noble womanhood—for true womanhood cannot have the quality of narrowness. We believe that with us the distinction is becoming less and less marked. The aim of the fraternity is to broaden, to educate its members in a way that will fit them to attain the noblest and the best in life.

The true woman never forgets to be thoughtful, unselfish, loving. Her life is one that brings sunshine into the hearts of those who surround her and that forgets itself in the welfare of others.

The fraternity that thus develops "earth's noblest thing, a woman perfected" will not only have attained its ideals, but will be the ideal fraternity.

M. M., *Tau.*

These are questions often discussed, and yet it seems to me that we cannot pay too much attention to what Theta brings to each girl who enters her ranks.

Theta Aims and Benefits. To the thoughtful Freshman we must give a reason for the confidence we place in Kappa Alpha Theta; a reason why she should link herself to our chain throughout her college course and ever after.

It has been suggested that we are too secret concerning the aim of fraternity life. The newcomer sees very little besides the social side. She is apt to think she sees all, and, if a studious girl, may think it would interfere with her work. After being initiated into the mystic circle, the beauties of the Theta ideal show to her clearly how high is the Theta aim. Each succeeding year—nay, month—opens up to her some new beauty of fraternity life, and she finds herself ready to ask, "What of college life without my fraternity?"

If in some way we could give to the Freshman a glimpse into the real good and the true aim of Theta, she would be much better prepared to enter the sisterhood and take up the responsibilities and joys of fraternity life. I do not mean that we should cease to be mystic, that our own peculiar ways of working should be told abroad. But let us show to the little world about us that we stand for a noble womanhood and true charity, not only toward the girls of our fraternity but toward all with whom we come in contact. Let us show that we are banded together to give to each other the help that can come only through intimacy ; that because we are helping each other to higher things, we are helping the university or college to which we belong ; that we are not entirely selfish and wholly exclusive ; but that because unity gives strength we as fraternity girls are better able to raise the standard of womanhood than if we were working alone.

It is a strong cord that binds Kappa Alpha Theta hearts together. In joy or in sorrow, there is ever a sister hand reached out in sympathy. This is the greatest benefit of fraternity life. Here true friendships are fostered, as would be impossible under other conditions.

Nor is the social intercourse to be counted as least among fraternity blessings. Who will ever forget Theta spreads and parties and receptions?

Here, too, is something for the studious girl, yes, for the one who is not so studious, also—an incentive to gain honors for her fraternity. To think that it not only proves her good scholarship, but also affects the standing of an organization to which she belongs, moves the student to exert all her strength. Yet, too, she is taught that high standing is not all that is required of the college girl, and she learns to give attention to the other essentials of well developed womanhood.

Yes, our ideal contains something for each girl. Theta's aim is high. Let us never forget that, and never be satisfied to stop half-way up.

LYDIA M. MATHER, *Delta.*

The program seems to be a topic which offers subject for much thought, attention, and discussion. It calls for some ingenuity to provide, for each fraternity meeting, a program which shall meet the necessary requirements. A fraternity represents wide variation of character and it is difficult to find the "open sesame" to all hearts.

Programs. After the business meeting, we want something in the way of diversion. The reading of continued stories has been tried, but can scarcely be called successful. In the first place, if the chapter is large, it is difficult to select a story that will hold equal interest for all, and, again, a long story taken up in this way is apt to drag. Then, some one, through absence, will lose the thread of the story, and some impatient spirit will be unable to wait and will "read ahead to see how it is going to end." A good short story—and the magazines now give a wide field for selection—is heartily enjoyed, if such are not offered too often.

It is variety and novelty that are wanted, and each one of the members ought to feel that the fraternity is depending upon her to furnish her part of it. A plan which has proved very successful is to put the entertainment for the evening in the hands of two or three members. Let them feel that they are as responsible for the pleasure of the rest of the chapter as a hostess should be for that of her guests. Arrange so that each member may, within the term, at some time and in some way, take an active part in the entertainment. Every one has talent for something—music, elocution, drama—what you will. Let her use it for the pleasure of her Theta sisters and she may be assured that her efforts will be appreciated.

Music seems to have the widest appeal. Every chapter must number among its members several whose attainments in vocal or instrumental music are such as to make whatever entertainment they may offer in that way very acceptable. And music, real music, rightly interpreted, cannot but afford pleasure as well as give our Thetas those higher, better thoughts that mark a nobler womanhood.

CHAPTER LETTERS.

The date upon which the next chapter letter should be sent out is February 5.

Please write on one side only of the paper, and put the personals on separate sheet headed only by the name of the chapter. Any personal communication to the editor should also be written on a separate sheet.

Please note the way the chapter letters are headed and always arrange them in the same way, putting nothing at the head but the names of the chapter and the university.

Alpha District.

IOTA—CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

Iota sends greeting to her sisters in Kappa Alpha Theta. The long fall term, with its weary burden of rushing and its fears, has at last passed, and the longed for winter term has come. Our late asking-day made us wonder whether any new girls would have the courage of their convictions, and would wait out for us. Four girls did, and though you whisper "What's in a name," you must hear the names of those who have just been initiated into the mystic circle of Kappa Alpha Theta: Mabel Almy, after two years at Smith College, entered Cornell University this year as a junior; Sarah Jenney Gilbert, Isabel Robertson, and Effie Abrams are the three freshmen who have joined us.

Clara Schouton and Cora Smith, two Iota Thetas, are on a short visit to Ithaca, and they were here for the initiation.

Mrs. Comstock has left Ithaca for her winter home, and she will not be with us until the spring term. We greatly miss her sweet presence in chapter meeting, and our pleasant afternoons at her home.

LAMBDA—VERMONT UNIVERSITY.

You who have asking day in the spring of the year must be very courageous and independent. Lambda holds out

vigorously but the fever of initiation is contagious and she at last succumbs. She is glad, however, to succumb for she can the sooner tell you of her five new girls, and here they are: Mabel Brownell and Helen Hodge of Burlington, Geneva Jones of Northfield, Emma Richardson, of Richmond, and Beatrice May of St. Johnsbury,—all staunch Vermonters, in home as well as college choice, and staunch Vermonters make good material for loyal Thetas. The initiation took place on Saturday evening, November nineteenth. Several of our alumnae were with us.

We had no vacation at Thanksgiving time so most of the girls were in town and Thanksgiving evening was made pleasant for us by a gathering at the home of our freshman, Helen Hodge. We danced and pulled candy while the snow drifted outside, making a night quite like the ideal New England Thanksgiving.

The same night was established a chapter of Pi Beta Phi, the Vermont Beta, by fourteen young women of the college. We welcomed this new fraternity by a tea given on Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mabel and Florence Nelson.

Vermont University has had the good fortune to secure a non-resident lecture course, given in connection with the Cambridge Conference. The list of lecturers includes Prof. Ward of Smithsonian Institute, Prof. Giddings of Columbia, Hon. Carroll D. Wright, Miss Jane Addams of the Hull House Social Settlement, Professors Toy, Hollis, and Royce of Harvard, and many others. This course is the gift of the college alumni and is greatly appreciated by the students.

With heartiest greetings, Lambda signs herself—“Yours for work and fun.”

MU—ALLEGHENY COLLEGE.

Since last Mu greeted you she has added to her list four as loyal Thetas as one could wish to find. We are very proud of them and want to introduce them immediately. They are Ella Florence Craig, of Warren, O., Winifred Parshall,

of Tidioute, Pa., Maud Gertrude Shaddock and Grace Anna Jenks of Meadville.

Our initiation took place on the twelfth of November. Mabel Confer, '98 and Ruth Ténnér, ex-'01, were back to enjoy it with us. The always beautiful service seemed doubly so on this occasion.

A few weeks ago we gave a very successful reception at the home of Miss Josephine Bates. Our president was especially kind on that evening and allowed the hostesses to remain past the hour when we usually are compelled to seek our college home.

Later we were entertained by our sister Gertrude Harper at a chafing-dish party.

Our college Glee Club made its first appearance for the year on last Friday evening, December the second. The concert was very good and after it the members of the club and faculty were entertained by the girls in Hulings Hall.

At noon on the sixteenth of November, Charlotte Illingworth, '98, started for her home in Burmah. She expects when there to take up the work of a missionary. She will teach in the school at Rangoon. When we said good-by to her we realized more than ever before how dear a fraternity sister can be.

Just at present the thing uppermost in our minds is the awful dread of examinations which will overtake us in less than a week.

CHI—SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY.

Since our last letter Chi has been made happy by visits from several members of our class of '98. Every Theta can understand with what joy we welcomed them back, how we wished they might be with us always. Yet gladly we gave each back to her duty, knowing that "we must be here to work."

We have to record the loss of one of our '99 girls in quite another way than by graduation.—At the Methodist Episcopal church of Kensico, N. Y., at two o'clock on November

the seventeenth, Iva Lena Lowther, '99, was united in marriage to Mr. Frederick Peters of Fishkill, New York. We miss from our circle one who was dear to all, whose loving sympathy never failed, who was a Theta "noble and true." Our earnest wishes for her perfect happiness follow this dear sister into her new life.

Among the social features of November was a Hallowe'en party given by Chi to the men of the University. The evening's entertainment was in the form of a witch party, and all the guests went home much enlightened as to their future destinies.

We rejoice in the addition of one more lovely girl to our circle, Elizabeth Dean, 1901, of Ulysses, Pa., has pledged to Kappa Alpha Theta.

Before the issue of another number of our JOURNAL, the Christmas vacation will have come and gone. The New Year will be upon us. What shall it mean of advance for each Theta sister? Chi sends greeting to her sister chapters, and bids them "Godspeed" on the New Year.

ALPHA BETA--SWARTHMORE COLLEGE.

One evening not long ago found a goodly array of Thetas, both active and alumnae, at the Philadelphia house of one of our girls, enjoying the pleasure of participating in our first initiation for this year. The ideals of Kappa Alpha Theta were revealed to our two pledges, Caroline Clothier and Edith Coale. We were especially glad to have with us Miss Briggs of Alpha Epsilon and Miss Pyle and Mrs. Sheble of Iota.

Miss Briggs, of Brown, made an unexpected call upon us one day, much to the pleasure of all concerned, and we prevailed upon her to spend a night with us. While she was here, Caroline Walter gave us a tea to meet Miss Moore a Kappa Kappa Gamma from De Pauw, and it was there that the alumnae first met our prospective pledges. Needless to say that we had a royal time. You know that must be so when Thetas are gathered together.

The Haverford-Swarthmore football game, last and most important of the season, brought many of our alumnae back to their Alma Mater, and their loving sympathy made the disappointment of defeat much easier to bear. Our old girls have been especially kind and thoughtful this year in their frequent visits, and when unable to come themselves, have often sent substantial representatives in the form of "boxes". Does not that word convey a delicious aroma of indigestible delicacies to you all?

Now that the football season is over, the more intellectual phase of college pleasures is being advanced. The Seniors practiced faithfully for the annual Shakespeare entertainment, which was just before Christmas and in which our three girls did full credit to their Fraternity. Oratorical contests and literary meetings are being planned and carried through. We seem to be kept in a whirl of work and play, but always, in the midst of the hurry and worry, each one of us knows that there are fourteen girls in college willing and ready to offer us their help and sympathy. No one who is not a Fraternity girl can know how many hard problems and difficulties are solved or lightened by this precious knowledge.

ALPHA DELTA—THE WOMAN'S COLLEGE OF BALTIMORE.

November the fifth dawned as a pledge day for Alpha Delta, and though to the outside world it was only another of "those disagreeable rainy days," to us it was bright with successes. Our Theta cosy-corner rang with the gayest of laughter and glad Theta songs. As the issue of our gentle conquests on that day, we are able to introduce to you all our four pledglings: Alice Powell Bennett, Mary Porter Boss, Frances Helena Miller and Suzanne Winter Sands. We deem ecstatic praises quite out of place here, so we think our new girls will be presented to you in the very most favorable light if we characterize them simply as worthy of the privileges and duties of Theta sisterhood.

On November the nineteenth we widened our circle to re-

ceive two of these pledglings—Alice Bennett and Suzanne Sands. We were very pleased to have with us at that time May E. Brownell, of Alpha Beta, and Ida Evans, ex-1900. After the beautiful ceremony of initiation we repaired to the Hotel Altamont, where we enjoyed, as only college girls can, the ever-welcome prelude to the "feast of reason and the flow of soul." Though chicken salad and meringues ever have a tangible charm for Baltimore Thetas, we realized that "the best was yet to be"—the bright hour filled with precious thoughts of the old and the new. In this belief we were not disappointed. Elizabeth Fuller Soay presided as toastmistress with great originality, and clever responses were given to the following toasts :

"Behold Our Theta Band"	Onnolee Countryman
"William the Conquered"	Ida Evans
"Our Kite"	Mary E. Brownell
"O Promise Me!"	Ethel Hendrickson
"Thresholds"	Sue Sands

So we passed another golden mile post in our history.

We were delighted to have Ida Evans remain to cheer our Thanksgiving. Our vacation was passed in the delicious luxury of doing nothing, or only those somethings that do not have to be done.

Among the fraternities here the date of pledge day is under discussion. In our own chapter we have earnest advocates both of the right of the Freshmen to enjoy the benefits of fraternity, and of the duty of the chapter to preserve a more dignified and worthy relation to college life. We are glad to see this vital matter fully presented in the Journal, and, personally, will most assuredly cheer the success of Iota in her brave attempt to lead in reform.

Delta Delta Delta entered the Woman's College on November the twenty-fifth with a charter membership of nine girls, most of whom are town girls.

ALPHA EPSILON—BROWN UNIVERSITY.

The most important event in the history of Alpha Epsilon since the last letter has been the initiation of seven girls,

whom we have already found to be strong *Thetas*. We are happy to introduce to the fraternity at large Grace M. Hamilton, Amy J. Cook, Lillian M. Gamwell, Abbie S. Ghodey, Millicent R. Leete, Katherine F. Littlefield, and Ella A. Pollard.

Our last meeting before the Christmas vacation was a "sewing circle," to which we brought our Christmas sewing. Later in the afternoon we played whist and danced. On the evening of December 26 we had a Christmas tree at Katherine Littlefield's home. This was an extremely pleasant reunion. After the gifts had been distributed, we sat around in a circle on the floor and those of our graduates who were present told us of their experiences since they left college. Our sister, Martha Briggs, '97, had just returned from a visit to Philadelphia, and she gave us an enthusiastic account of her visit to the Swarthmore *Thetas* and of meeting our Grand President. We are prepared to believe that, as she said, "Swarthmore girls are lovely."

At present we are interested in planning for our annual reception and dance, to be given on February 22d. We celebrate this day as our birthday, which really occurs two days earlier.

ALPHA ZETA—BARNARD COLLEGE.

Since our last chapter-letter was written Alpha Zeta has been sailing on its way amid fair and prosperous breezes. One bright and happy morning early in November we came to college to find on the bulletin board a notice, to the effect that the Graduate Study had been assigned to the Alpha Zeta Chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta, for its permanent use. Although this was seemingly the result of a forcible and eloquent petition presented to the House Committee, without the interest of our Dean it would probably have never been granted, and to her we are especially grateful.

The Graduate Study is a large room on the second floor of Milbank Hall, next to that occupied by Kappa Kappa Gamma and directly opposite the undergraduate study. Of

course we took possession immediately and were very much amused at the continual efforts of the ignorant uninitiated to force open the door of our sanctum. After four weeks these efforts suddenly ceased, owing to the appearance of the Kite on the door, a final announcement concerning the private character of the room.

Our autumn reception, notwithstanding rain that came down in torrents, was voted a success. A member of the Gamma Alumnae braved the storm and gave us the pleasure of hearty hand grasps and kind wishes.

Just at present we are all working hard and some of us are experiencing the tired feeling that inevitably comes about the middle of the term. Asking day is so late at Barnard, the first Monday in February that the report of our initiations of enthusiastic freshmen can not be given until April. We hope that report will be an honor to our chapter and to the whole fraternity.

With many good wishes for the coming year, Alpha Zeta sends a hearty New Year's greeting to all her Theta sisters.

Beta District.

ALPHA—DEPAUW UNIVERSITY.

The first term of '98 has been characterized chiefly by hard work, but the fact that we have been so busy during the week, only intensifies the enjoyment of our pleasant Saturday evenings together. We do not wish to be boastful, but cannot refrain from telling how proud we are of our new sisters. Alpha Chapter is large, but we feel that we could not do without one of our nine new girls, for they are proving themselves true Thetas.

It has been decided that we will be at home to our friends on the second Monday of each month at our chapter house, and we hope that this method of becoming better acquainted with friends in the University, as well as in town, will prove as successful as it has in other chapters who have tried it.

It is with great regret that we lose one of our girls, Ida Hood, who was obliged to return to her home in Portland because of ill health.

An invitation has been extended to our Alumnae Chapter to hold its monthly meetings at our chapter house. We are very proud of our alumnae and hope that this year we may be drawn more closely together in the bonds of Theta.

BETA—INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY.

Beta sends best wishes to all sister chapters for a glad New Year. The spike, with us, is over, and the rushing season, with all its excitement, hopes and uncertainties, is past. Since the last writing, there are eight new Thetas added to our list: Mary Johnson, Nelle Manhood, Selma Stempel, Ethel Crosier, Emma Clinton, Carrie Forkner, Clara Findrisch, and Martha Davidson.

Theta has entertained informally a number of times this year, and once, formally. The principal efforts in this line, have, of course, been in behalf of the "new girls" in the attempt to get better acquainted with them, and make them no longer "new."

Beta chapter is rejoicing in the possession of a new piano, and the girls can now "make music" to their heart's content. We have been aided in a financial way toward getting this piano by friends of the fraternity, and by our alumnae. In counting up our blessings we never forget to number among them an ever interested, kindly alumnae.

A number of Thetas attended the Indiana-Purdue football game at Lafayette (where,—let it be said in a parenthesis—"we" did not win, to be sure, but did good playing, at least). Such things show the interest that Thetas have in all concerns of their Alma Mater's college athletics, being by no means, an unimportant one. The true Theta is one who is broad enough in intellect and heart, to take an interest in "everything."

DELTA—UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS.

It is with a feeling of satisfaction and a little sigh of content that the Thetas of Illinois watch the end of the first term of this year draw near. But we do not mean it to be a passive contentment. We have worked with a will, and now that the rushing season is over have resolved not to sit down with folded hands and a complacent air, but to make an added effort to show the little world about us the true ideals of our fraternity through our actions.

A new development has arisen in our Woman's Department. During the last few weeks an organization of the young women has been effected to be known as the Wateheka League. Perhaps you would be interested in hearing why we chose that name. Years ago when the Indian tribe Illini inhabited the territory where our buildings now stand, there was a woman among them known as Wateheka. Another powerful tribe threatened to attack the Illini, and the braves, strangely terrified, prepared to meekly submit. Wateheka, though but a despised squaw, inspired the fainting hearts and led her tribe to victory. We are especially pleased because one of our girls is the first president of the League.

For the first time death has robbed us of one of our circle. Grace Ella Mather was taken from us last October. In the midst of our sorrow we feel that Theta means more to us than ever, for we have walked through the "valley of the shadow" together.

EPSILON—UNIVERSITY OF WOOSTER.

Only three short weeks of study, and many of us will be travelling swiftly homeward to spend a joyous Xmas tide among our loved ones. The term seems to have passed most rapidly, and although it has been a very busy one, it has also brought with it many good times.

We gave our large party early in November at Margaret Platter's delightful home, and feel it was a great success. For souvenirs we had kite-shaped favors with painted

pansies on the front page and our whistle sketched on the back. Within was the menu and a couplet describing each girl. The boys had a great deal of fun deciding to whom their couplets applied.

The weekly meetings in our bright new rooms have been very enjoyable ; and after the business is over, we love to gather around the cosy hearth, turn down the lights, and tell each other stories.

The merry jingle of the sleighbells and the gay laughter of the coasters without, remind us that winter has really come, and the New Year with all its joys and sorrows will soon be upon us.

May this holiday season be one of great happiness to every Theta.

ETA.—UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

Initiation is over, and the new girls are beginning to know and appreciate the true worth of real fraternity life.

We have planned for two-hour meetings this year, the first hour to be devoted to the business of the chapter and the second to literary work. New books, current events, and favorite authors will be discussed and studied. In this way we hope to keep in touch with the outside world more than we are able to do at present.

Our delegate came home from the convention brimful of enthusiasm and capital schemes for new work. We hope to try the merits of some or all of them this winter. In fact Eta is striving to do everything in her power as a chapter to help her individual girls.

On December 10, the annual party for the freshmen will be given. The upperclass girls invite to the house gentlemen from both the faculty and the student body whom they wish the new girls to know as friends. The responsibility of the evening's entertainment rests upon the sophomore girls, while the juniors and seniors help the new girls receive their guests. Eta has adopted the plan for two or three years past and finds it an admirable one for introduc-

ing the freshmen into the society which will be helpful and congenial to them.

We are keeping in close touch with our alumnae, too. Each girl in the active chapter has been given the name and address of an alumnae sister, to whom she is to write a friendly letter before Christmas tide. Of course, the freshmen do not know their correspondent at all, but we can think of no better way for them to become acquainted than this. We hope the alumnae girls will appreciate this act of love and courtesy on Eta's part, and respond with at least a line or two of wholesome advice.

NU—HANOVER COLLEGE.

Almost one term of our college year has passed, and it is with a feeling of the greatest satisfaction that we look back over our term's work.

Two of our alumnae were present at our initiation, which took place two weeks ago and was one of the most beautiful and impressive we have ever conducted. We now introduce to you Lucy Hughes, May Firth, Grace Lindley and Mabel Almond.

Our chapter has been greatly benefited by the report of our delegate, Mary Torrance, to the convention of Beta District, and we wish we could all have been there.

Florence Thompson, one of Nu's enthusiastic Theta's who entered Lake Forest this year, was not satisfied with that college, there being no Theta chapter there, and desired to return to us. Soon after she attended the convention of Beta District we received word she would soon be among our number, and we are again enjoying her presence.

During Thanksgiving vacation a number of our girls were guests of friends at Madison, Indiana, and were most delightfully entertained.

Theodora McCoy, '96, of Madison, Ind., and Margaret McCoy, '96, of Indianapolis, spent a portion of last week in Hanover.

On Thanksgiving evening the Beta Theta Pi fraternity

gave a reception and dance, at which most of our girls were present.

Mary Torrance, Nu's only representative in the junior class, has honored herself and our chapter by her high class standing, which entitles her to a place on the Junior Exhibition.

We send our greetings and hope that all our sister chapters are as happy and prosperous as we.

PI—ALBION COLLEGE.

The good times of the holidays, so long looked forward to by us all, are now only a memory, and we stand facing another term of school with all its possibilities open before us. Of the three terms in our school year we Pi girls have learned to love the winter term best. The "mad rush" of the fall, with all the little unpleasant features which we dislike so heartily, but which will occur as long as the present system of rushing is followed, is over for the year; the new girls have learned the ways and manners of Greekdom, and settled into their places in "the circle," and, by the beginning of the winter term we gather round the fireplace at the dear old Lodge ready to enjoy our well earned peace and to improve the time by forming stronger, dearer ties and friendships between all, and making each and every one a better, truer, Theta.

This term we are very happy in having with us again two of our junior girls whose places in the mystic circle were vacant last term.

The chapter is large, for us, but we hope to prove that a large chapter can be just as ideal as a small one.

As a result of last fall's rush season, we are proud to introduce into the world of Thetas four freshmen and one junior: Miss Helen Temple, Tecumseh, Mich.; Miss Mary Cooper, Midland, Mich.; Miss Florence Nagle, Miss Georgia Merritt, Albion, Mich., and Miss Edna Thompson, Elkhart, Ind.

Last term was a busy one, for, besides our regular rush

parties, Pi showed her loyalty to athletics by entertaining the football team, and expresses her good will to her neighbors, the Delta Gamma girls, whose lodge is next to ours, by entertaining them Hallowe'en. We enjoyed the evening very much, and a hearty good spirit was evinced by all. The colors of both fraternities were in evidence in the decorations and we felt that we were all Greeks together, although of different tribes.

We have made the usual number of New Year's resolutions, and though we may not be able to keep them all, we can at least make an honest endeavor, remembering that,

" Somehow, somewhere and forever,
Reward is the meed of endeavor."

Pi sends best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year to all Thetas.

RHO—UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA.

Just before Rho scattered for the Thanksgiving recess she was given a special cause for glad rejoicing and thanksgiving in the shape of a heart-whole acceptance of an invitation by one who was longed for in vain by rivals of old—Gene Gettner—and now—she is ours. In accordance with the old saw, that "the more one gets, the more one wants," and likewise believing that "to him who hath, shall be given," Rho is expecting some dainty Christmas gifts, similar to her Thanksgiving present, and just in time to make the holidays the brightest of the bright. And on somewhat the same principle, Rho will be grievously surprised and disappointed if the mid-year appointments to Phi Beta Kappa do not include at least one of her number. She is confident that the spring elections will favor one or two, but is anxious to come in among the very first.

Rho's problem, growing more unsolvable with each year that brings an increase in the mad pace with which rushing is carried on at Nebraska, is how to keep to the front in the race, and at the same time, not fall a jot behind in her studies. The conviction is becoming settled that "rushing,"

in the ordinary acceptance and practice of the term, is an evil and so undignified that one's self-respect totters at each "stooping to conquer." But how to do away with it, or how even to mitigate it, puzzles sorely. Asking day merely prolongs the agony, nor seems to abate it. Has any one light to give us—from experience or observation? We envy our sisters of Iota in having the courage to act on their convictions—but dare not follow suit.

Finally, let Rho add her fervent pleadings for a speedy appearance of the song-book. If the Grand Council could but look and listen, as Rho bravely tries to sing, with no books, and no music—the songs she herself has composed—or meagre remains left from the old book—that reverend body would either stop its musical ears and run in dismay, or weep with compassion. So many of our troubles will dissipate under the influence of music and song that we pray for speedy salvation—especially those of us who are in our last year of college—and fraternity—life, and thus may never know the joys some of you have in your singing.

TAU—NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY.

The long anticipated convention is over and has been voted by all a success, both as to pleasure and profit. Those were happy days to us all and the feeling manifest would furnish one of the best arguments for the fraternity idea, and one of the best proofs of its stability and right to exist. Although the delegates could not say that either the moon or sun shone fair along Lake Michigan, for it rained every minute, rain could not dampen Theta spirit, not even when Evanston seemed a veritable "vale of tears." The delegates have written to us several times, and the friendship of those few days bids fair to be a lasting one. We love to hear of their success and when we learn that they have new girls, we also feel triumphant.

Tau is broadening her life and energies this fall. Recently we went to the Northwestern University Settlement in Chicago and gave a reception to some garment-

workers. Now we are planning to receive all the girls of the University at an informal tea, an attempt for the first time to break down the barrier between fraternity girls and independent. We believe that Theta should lead in this.

One of our girls, Irene Parks, has been very ill with typhoid fever and we have feared the presence of the dread angel. However, recovery is assured.

Our latest prize is Esca Rogers, a winsome little lass and possessed of true Theta grace.

We have found our pleasantest moments at our fraternity suppers which we are now having every Monday after fraternity meeting. Some of us are developing into culinary artists.

And so, sisters all in unity, auf wiederschreiben.

UPSILON—UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.

Upsilon is applying herself so earnestly to work that she can hardly find time to tell you the news. A few days before Thanksgiving a typical Minnesota blizzard visited us which left behind its heavy, white snow-mantle and a keen and bracing atmosphere, very conducive to studious intentions.

The delegates to the district convention came back full of the praises of Tau and likewise full of new ideas and suggestions, some of which we are planning to carry out. They tell us we are to be congratulated on the many charming and beautiful girls we can call by the name of sisters. We all knew it before but it is pleasant to have the fact corroborated so emphatically.

Our chapter is looking forward to the joys of another initiation. Verna Kluckhohn who was pledged last year but could not enter until second term, and Mary Howe, also a Freshman are preparing for it in fear and trembling. We pity them a little but realize how much more the name of Theta will mean to them after the veil has been lifted.

We send loving greetings to all our sister chapters. May we all be drawn closer together, not only by the bond of

common interests but by a true hearted, sympathetic fellowship and may we ever keep high the standard of our fraternity, building on a foundation of true and noble womanhood.

PSI.—UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

Psi finds itself immersed in work at this time of the year, but, as her number has been strengthened by five initiates and three pledglings, she feels able to cope with anything that should appear.

Let me tell you about our new girls, who are worthy, in every sense of the word, of being Thetas. Our initiates are Mabel Stewart, Genevieve Stevens, Kate Buell, Daisy White and Esther Donnelly, and our three pledglings are Ella Buell, Laura Sage and Jeanette Sage, who are fine girls and whom we are exceedingly anxious to have enrolled as members of Kappa Alpha Theta.

We held our initiation November 2nd at the home of Mrs. E. Ray Stevens, and a very beautiful and impressive ceremony it was. We finished up with a banquet and general good time.

We are glad to welcome Josephine Bidin back in our midst. She was away for a long time and her presence was sadly missed.

About the convention--if we were really to begin to say anything we would never stop, so I will say that we have enjoyed the reports of it very much, which have been of great benefit to us so well were they given us by our delegate, who was Mary L. Strong, and who was accompanied by Eolun Smith and Winifred Smith. The girls were entertained most delightfully by Mrs. May Evans Mason of Psi chapter, '92.

Psi has received the following invitation :

*Mrs. Bull and Miss Shepard
will be pleased to see the members of K. A. O.
Saturday, December tenth,
from three to five.
University Heights.*

Psi has decided to have one meeting a month a social meeting. We will begin by having a fancy dress ball next Monday at the home of Genevieve Stevens. We have decided to have the girls in each class prepare a program and furnish the amusement for their particular night. In this way the other girls will enjoy it the more, because they will know nothing of what will occur.

The honorary society of Phi Beta Kappa is to be organized here soon. It is hoped that Theta will be represented.

Psi is rejoicing over the fact that Ina Langly, who was not able to return this semester owing to the death of her sister, will be with us next February.

A tiny girl whom we all hope will be a Theta some day is the little daughter of Eleanor Leith Sabin. Another child, also, has come into Theta's midst; but, alas, it is a boy, whose happy mother is Maud Hudson Clark.

Wedding bells have rung often and merrily for members of Psi during the past summer. The last one who was married was Mary Beebe, ex '96, who was married at her home in Sparta in September to Mr. Philip Bertrand, '95 Δ. Y. of West Superior.

ALPHA GAMMA—OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

Our dear old campus is covered with snow. Winter seems to have appeared in earnest, and with it all the gayeties of that season. Alpha Gamma gave a Halloween and dancing party at the home of Miss Luse, to introduce our new girls Mary Loren, Jessie Carpenter and Gertrude Bellows.

Phi Delta Theta celebrated its fiftieth anniversary here the week of Thanksgiving. On the evening of the twenty-first they gave a most delightful Formal at the Chittenden, which all of our girls enjoyed and also had the pleasure of meeting "Father Morrison." On the following Wednesday Alpha Gamma and Epsilon alumnae gave a reception to the chapter and delegates at the home of Tella Axline.

November 19th The Pilomathean Literary Society gave an entertainment at the O. S. U. Chapel. It consisted of

two parts,—1st, A Farce, "Serious Situations," and 2d, A Play in Pantomine "Genevra." Phi Kappa Psi gave a most delightful party at the Great Southern for the alumnae and active chapters of Kappa Alpha Theta on December the second.

If all the chapters of the district were favored with as good a report of the convention as our delegate, Florence Bell brought to us, they were surely most fortunate. After listening to her account very little imagination was needed to feel that we had been present and had seen the different delegates and heard their views.

Blessings upon every Theta, and may the bond that binds to a better, a purer, and a nobler womanhood be strengthened.

Gamma District.

PHI—STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CALIFORNIA.

Phi sends congratulations and good wishes to all the sister chapters.

We are happy to introduce four new Thetas—Georgia Caswell, '01; Helen Lathrop, '01; Hazel Webster, '02; and Agnes Arneil, '02. Our initiation was held in Oakland the 23rd of November at the beautiful home of May Hume. We were glad to have four of the Omega girls with us—Agnes Borland, Fanny Stone, Mary Alney and Katherine Wickson. Mrs. Cubberley, one of our new faculty Thetas, also took part in the initiation.

Twenty-five of us sat down to the banquet, and we sang and toasted in the loyal Theta way. The following is the toast list :

TOASTS.

November 23, 1898.

"Hang sorrow! Care will kill a cat
And therefore, let's be merry."

Welcome ----- Letitia Patterson
"Viens mon beau chat, sur
Mon coeur amoureux."

Response	Hazel Webster
	"I'd rather be a kitten."
Phi	Maryline Barnard
	"What a monstrous tale our cat has got."
Our Omega Sisters	Fanny Stone
	"Friendly, neighborly cats."
The Alumnae	Emma Virginia Pearson
	"When the cats come back."
Toastmistress	Henrietta Stadtmüller

Phi has thirteen active members, eight of whom live in the chapter house. Fraternity meetings are held on Thursday evenings, and every fourth one is a social meeting. We devote the first part of each business meeting to fraternity education. For this work we have a syllabus of questions and references, which is a great help to us.

We are already thinking about January 27th, the fraternity birthday. We celebrate the day by giving presents to the chapter house.

If it is not out of place in a letter, Phi suggests that the new catalogue have a directory of the more important cities where Thetas are to be found. This would be very useful to have for reference when one is traveling and would bring about a much wider acquaintance among Thetas generally.

The Semester is drawing to a close and everyone is busy finishing her work. Next Semester, we are hoping to have some of our "old girls" in college again.

OMEGA—UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.

Of all the events of this semester, the initiation stands out most prominent. How happy we are over it you Theta sisters who have passed through a wearisome, rushing season and come out with the girls approaching nearest to Theta ideals, alone can know. On Saturday evening, October 22, we welcomed into Theta, Grace Boggs, Amy Furlong, Mary Powell, Edith Selby, and Katherine Smith, all of the class of 1902. Many of our alumnae were with us, and four sisters from Phi chapter.

Our sisters in Southern California, who were unable to be

present at the initiation, sent their greetings in the very substantial and acceptable form of a chafing-dish. Tied to it with knots of black and gold ribbon were twenty cards, each bearing the name of one of our dear girls, with a few loving words. We have already christened our prized possession, and feel quite up in the world since we have passed beyond the days of a sauce-pan and a kerosene lamp.

On Tuesday evening, November 15, we gave an At Home to the college boys. We were having the best of times when the awful news was passed around that our refreshments had mysteriously disappeared. We hastily telephoned for more, but spent an anxious half-hour until our second supply was locked up in the fraternity house, safe from pilfering fingers.

Our junior and sophomore girls have given two very informal teas to some of the non-fraternity girls of their respective classes. We feel it is just such gatherings as these that bridge the gulf between the fraternity and the non-fraternity girls.

Thanksgiving eve three of our seniors went to Phi's initiation. It has been a great pleasure to us of Omega to feel that each year brings us closer to our sister chapter. Our sympathies are in common, save on one day of the year, Thanksgiving, when our loyalty to our respective colleges requires us to meet as rivals.

This year our blue and gold waved triumphantly over Stanford's cardinal. After seven long years of ties and defeats, (principally the latter), we won our first victory on the football field, beating Stanford with a score of 22 to 0. The college halls are still resounding with joyous songs of victory.

Omega sends best wishes to all Kappa Alpha Thetas.

PERSONALS.

ALPHA.

Josephine Cartwright, '98, has been visiting Theta sisters.

Dorothy Howe and Grace Michaels, at present attending Ohio Wesleyan, are expected to return to Depauw next term.

Laura Canady, '98, spent a few days with Theta sisters.

Grace Crowder of Sullivan has been visiting friends at Depauw.

Grace Birch, '95, is teaching German in Indianapolis.

EPSILON.

Mary Elizabeth Beer, '97, music, '98, is studying music in New York.

Louise Morrison, '98, is spending the winter in California.

Bertha Work McMannigal, music, '98, is teaching music at Logan, Ohio.

The engagement of Mildred Immel, '91, to Thomas Flattery, '91, is announced. Mr. Flattery is postmaster at Wooster.

The engagement of Louise Morrison, '98, to D. Johnson Fleming, '98, Beta Theta Pi, of Lahore, India, is announced.

ETA.

Myra Post and her sister, Miss Helen, were Eta's guests over Friday and Saturday last week.

Susan Frances Patterson attended the regular initiation of Eta chapter this fall.

Another Theta baby ! It belongs to Kate Landfair Rosenberry. Eta is proud and happy.

Lena Smith of Detroit was with us over Friday and Saturday last week.

Irene Blanchard, who is teaching in the High School at Grand Rapids, spent the thanksgiving recess with her mother and sister at our home. We were all glad to see Irene looking so well and happy.

Several of the girls spent the holidays in Detroit, guests of the Theta sisters who reside there.

IOTA.

Cora Ermina Smith, '94, was with us again for a few days' visit last week, and we were especially glad that she had timed her visit so that she might be present at the initiation. She is not very far away this year and so we hope to see her often. She is re-cataloguing the Wadsworth Library at Geneseo, N. Y.

Clara Esther Schouton, '94, came and stayed with Cora Smith while she was here, so we had the pleasure of seeing her again after her year and a half of travel abroad with Clara Kerr. Clara Schouton is to be at home this year at Brockport, N. Y.

Jennette May Sheldon, '94, and Maud Josephine Reamer, '96, are teaching in the Manual Training School, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Gladys Willard, '98, is teaching in the High School in East Orange, N. Y.

Four Iota girls are in the Library School at Albany, N. Y., this year—Bertha Marx, Isadore Gilbert Mudge, Elizabeth Days Defendorf and Mabel Dobbin, all of the class of '98. They seem to be very happily placed for meeting Theta sisters, many of whom have passed through the city while they have been there.

LAMBDA.

Theodora M. Plumley, '97, is teaching at Mattoon, Ill.

Marian Brigham Rustedt, '98, and Ivy Hopkins, ex-'00, made us a flying visit Nov. 19.

Mabel S. Way, '98, and Lucy E. Sawyer, ex-'99, visited us Nov. 26. Miss Sawyer is teaching at Hyde Park.

TAU.

Miss Nell Fleshiem, '96, has been in California with a party from Menominee, Mich., including Miss Clara

Stephenson, '95, and her sister, Elizabeth Stephenson. The latter christened the new battleship Wisconsin.

Miss Jessie Cope, '98, has been visiting in Evanston.

Miss Lida Scott, who was teaching last year in the Cumnock School of Oratory in California, is again with us and teaching physical culture classes at the auditorium.

Grace Dietrich, '98, is teaching in Mme. Loring's school in Chicago.

Miss Helen Powell of Alpha Gamma has been visiting in and near Evanston and we now claim her for a Tau girl.

PHI.

Mrs. John Newsome of Beta Chapter is one of our new faculty Thetas.

Mrs. Mary Roberts Smith gave a series of lectures at Vassar this semester.

Susan Kingsbury, Martha Haven and May Hume have all visited us during the semester.

Elizabeth Hague and May Hume will be in college again next semester.

CHI.

Miss Ada Parker of the class of '97, who has spent some time in studying abroad, and in post-graduate work at Cornell University, has recently been visiting friends in Syracuse.

Miss Edith Lenore Knight, Phi Beta Kappa, class of '98, spent Thanksgiving with Theta sisters at Syracuse.

Miss Lena L. Hoose, ex-'98, who was compelled to leave college because of ill health, has been a guest at Kappa Alpha Theta Lodge. She will be back later in the year to complete her college course.

Mrs. Baker, of Irving Avenue, delightfully entertained the Freshman and Sophomore classes at a chocolate, on Friday, December the fifth.

Miss Eva Miller, teacher of German in the High School at Newark, New York, spent Sunday at the Theta Lodge.

Mrs. B. Frederick Piper, '92, of Buffalo, has been visiting relatives in the city.

Miss Gertrude Virgil, teacher in Hamilton Academy passed a part of her Thanksgiving vacation with the girls.

OMEGA.

Amy Furlong, '02, has been obliged to leave college because of ill health. We hope to have her with us again next semester.

Bertha Newell, '99, has left college and is visiting her sister in the Hawaiian Islands.

Mary Maxwell, '98, is teaching school at Arcata, Humboldt County.

Marion Crins Whipple, '98, is teaching in the San Diego High School. We are very happy to know that she has found two Thetas in San Diego. One of Omega's girls, Frances Boggs, '95, and Grace Johnson, of Lambda.

Susan Clark, '98, is teaching school at Lodi.

Agnes Frisius, '02, is on the editorial staff of the University of California Magazine and one of our Juniors is on the editorial staff of the *Blue and Gold*, our college annual. One of our Juniors was awarded the curtain-raiser in the play which is given every year by the Junior class.

ALPHA GAMMA.

Ruth Ford, '98, is teaching in the High School at Ashtabula, Ohio.

Helen Powell is in Chicago, the guest of Mrs. Kingsbury, a former Tau girl.

Grace Eagleson, '97, is visiting in Cleveland.

Martha Fisher Griffen, ex-'99, of Zenia, spent several days in Columbus a short time before Thanksgiving.

WEDDING BELLS.

ALPHA GAMMA.

Married, October 18th, 1898, Vera Inez Luse, and William Galien Price. They are at home at 825 Dennison Avenue, Columbus, Ohio.

UPSILON.

Miss Alice Pabodie and Mr. George M. Evanson, were married at Baraboo, Wisconsin, Nov. 26, 1898. They will make their home in St. Peter, Minnesota.

OMEGA.

The marriage of Agnes Borland, ex-'00, and Mr. Walter Morris Hart, took place on Wednesday evening, December twenty-eight, 1898.

LAMBDA.

Annie Bowen Leavens, '96, was married to Mr. Wilfred A. Manchee, on Nov. 17, at the home of the bride in Passaic, N. J. They will live in Newark, N. J.

CHI.

On Thursday, November the seventeenth, 1898, at the Methodist Episcopal church at Kensico, New York, Iva Lena Lowther, was united in marriage to Mr. Frederick Peters, of Fishkill, New York.

EDITORIALS.

The delegate to the convention should be elected by this time and preparing herself in every possible way to do her individual part toward making the convention a success. No delegate can do herself, her chapter, or her fraternity justice if she has been obliged to prepare herself on the cramming system. It is not easy to think quickly and decide intelligently upon a subject that has not been fully discussed and considered from every possible standpoint. So any chapter that has not already done so should appoint the delegate without delay so that she may have the full benefit of the study of the constitution and other matters of fraternity interest. Her work will be more comprehensive and thorough if she knows that she is to represent her chapter at the convention, as well as in the coming examinations.

An important part of the fraternity journal should always be the columns of personals. Perhaps the alumna has more interest in this part of her fraternity journal than in any other department. The active chapter is very apt to overlook this and grow careless about sending in items of personal interest with the chapter letter. So far Theta has not done all that she might do in this line. Will the secretary try to look ahead and imagine herself an alumna with the interest that she will then have in these columns, and inspired by this glance into the future, collect items of personal interest as they reach her, put them in good shape and send them on with the chapter letter.

When one reads the many things that the fraternity girl has to say about the ideal fraternity member one may perhaps be allowed to wonder whether good material may not sometimes be overlooked in this critical search for the ideal. The good all around girl is of course much to be desired but appreciation of her need not blind us to the desirability of the girl who has perhaps only one or two of the many qual-

ties that we admire in her sister. Is it not possible that we look from the standpoint of the individual rather than the chapter. Just as we are apt to think of the chapter rather than the fraternity? The chapter needs members who devote themselves to particular lines. It is a mistake to consider a girl wholly out of the running because she fails in one particular that you consider essential to the ideal fraternity sister, while she still has many qualities that endear her to you as a friend. Open your eyes and look around your chapter as a whole. Take a glance ahead and consider the future conditions as far as you can foresee them. See whether the chapter does not need or will not need added strength along just the line that is the special forte of the girl about whom you are hesitating. It does not take all kinds of girls to make a chapter but it takes a good many different kinds. The scholar we have always with us, and perhaps this is the first certainly not more than the second question asked about the candidate. But we cannot afford to have a chapter made up wholly of girls whose thoughts are so centered upon that part of the college education that is gained in the class room that they miss opportunities for social education. We must add the girl who not only sees and takes advantage of the opportunities in this direction that present themselves, but who also makes them. No chapter is making the most of itself that does not have a broad social life in the best sense of the word. There is another type of girl who is hard to classify, perhaps because her characteristics are more or less shared by all her sisters. She may be overlooked at first because she has no special talent that makes her prominent in any one of these particular lines. But her quiet, well bred, refined personality is a constant influence for good and she does much toward fusing the other and more or less diverse elements of the chapter. Add to these the girl who naturally takes the lead in the business life of the chapter and we have them nearly if not quite all. Not one could be omitted but we need not insist that every member should combine in herself everyone of these qualities before she is eligible.

EXCHANGES.

The *Anchora* is full of timely articles upon topics of fraternity interest, we quote entire a short article upon "Inter-Chapter Acquaintance."

"When one chapter of a fraternity is discussing plans and schemes, the question often arises as to how other chapters arrange this or that. The conditions may not be the same in other universities. One phase of a question may be emphasized in one college while the opposite phase is more important in another. Thus we wonder just how our sister chapters are situated. Would it not be well for us to know as much about each individual chapter as possible? We get much out of the chapter letters and *Anchora* articles, but frequently we have no setting for these. We do not know enough about the universities where there are chapters of Delta Gamma, unfortunately we cannot all visit these different institutions."

Much would be gained if we would exchange university registers and by this means learn of the courses and general arrangement of university work. To become still more acquainted, we should have the yells and the colors of these universities. We might exchange pennants. Then too, if we could have pictures of the buildings and grounds of the universities of the other chapters, much advance would be made in acquaintance. There are only thirteen chapters of Delta Gamma so this exchange could easily be made and need not be expensive. Without doubt, there is in every chapter a kodak fiend. Let her make the pictures.

The flags also could be made by the members of the chapters.

These suggestions for inter-chapter acquaintance may not be so important to chapters which are near one another. The members of these, no doubt, enjoy personal acquaintance. But for those that are far apart, some of the distance would be eliminated and a closer bond formed between them by becoming more familiar with the immediate surroundings of each chapter.

We can picture to ourselves an ideal Delta Gamma chapter room. Beside the many things of local interest it contains there is upon a table a folio of pictures of Delta Gamma chapter homes, upon the walls, the flags of thirteen univer-

sities, while among the books are the registers of those same institutions. The girls themselves enjoy these and feel as they see them, the support of their sisters scattered over our country. But it is not to the fraternity girl alone that these things speak. During rushing season would not the freshmen realize from these the bond of unity between the chapters? Would they not see in them indications of the strong national fraternity spirit and interest? Would they not realize that the chapter that honors them is but a part of a harmonious whole?"

From the many good things in the November *Trident* we clip the following from an article on the "Influence of the Fraternity.

"We know that the social, political, collegiate, and religious worlds are unequal links in the great chain of human history; we also know that if the weakest link is strengthened the whole chain becomes proportionately stronger, but if it becomes weaker, then the chain is correspondingly weakened. The fraternity has it in her power to add to the strength of each one of these links and by so doing it increases its own power and strength in like manner.

As "the child is father to the man" so will the ideas formed while in college or society, politics, education, and religion, with but few exceptions, continue through life. Fraternity men and women are the leaders in all of the departments of college and university life, wherever fraternities are found; hence it behooves us to encourage the formation of the right ideas along these lines.

It is one of our duties or, rather, privileges, to make every social function connected with our chapter or college a success. Every educational institution has among its numbers a certain per cent. of shy and backward pupils. We are the ones who are to make these timid pupils feel that they have a share in the good times of college life and that they are glad they have entered this or that particular institution. And at the next social gathering these very ones whom we have succored will make it easier for some one else, nor will the little kindness done by us stop there, but it will go on and on, like the waves from the little pebble we so often hear about being cast into the ocean.

The political future of our United States and the world is in the hands of college men and women. It rests with us to depose the demagogue and to do away with the "boss."

We are the ones to encourage by example true, pure citizenship.

Why is it that we leave home to enter the great ranks of those "going away to school!" Is it simply for the purpose of showing our diplomas and saying "I am a graduate of such and such an institution"; or is it in order to learn how to think, that we may become students? I fear there is too much careless studying done for does not the student oft-times say to herself, "If I had it to do over again, how much more in earnest I would be when I studied." So we are the ones, when we feel this way, to assist our active sisters in realizing the importance of their present work. If the pupils all over this broad land could be brought to a realization of this fact, there would be such a raising of the standards of education as has never even been dreamed of by our foremost educators.

The time we are on the earth forms so short a period of our existence that if we expend all of our energies in the promulgation of the physical and mental natures and neglect the spiritual, some day we will understand what a great mistake we have made. Reverence, the reverence for God, his religion, and his people, is one of the virtues that we as fraternity girls, and leaders in the world, want to especially cultivate. And active work in the religious organizations of the college and the world is the best method of cultivation.

There is not a department of life but what feels the influence of the fraternities either for good or bad. Shall we allow it to be said that our influence is not good? Would it not be better to make our power for good so felt that every educational institution would court the fraternities rather than debar them."

The December *Scroll* of Phi Delta Theta gives, among other things, several articles with interesting statistics on Fraternity Badges and Other Emblems, Chapter Houses Owned or Rented by the Men's General Fraternities, and a long article reviewing a great many of the college annuals.

The *Sigma Chi Quarterly* is a new and welcome addition to our exchanges this month. We hope that hereafter it may be a regular one. We quote from an editorial from which every active member may gain suggestion and inspiration :

"The worthily ambitious Sigma Chi has always this ques-

tion to propound when thinking of his own, or other chapters of the fraternity, which may have come under his observation: 'Is this chapter making progress?' He is not satisfied with the surface evidence. He wants to know along what lines and to what degree the advancement is being made. Are all the fields of chapter activity fully occupied? Does the life of the chapter manifest that perfect strength and successful aggressiveness which is the sufficient proof of symmetrical development? If so, well and good. If not, why not? Have the brothers that oneness of purpose, which is the soul of congeniality? Has each enough intuitive self respect to meet every other brother on terms of equality in the chapter, whatever financial, social, athletic, or scholastic limitations may hold outside? This equality must precede confidence, and in that confidence which opens the heart of one brother to another is found the richest blessing of chapter life. When assured that the present condition of his chapter is satisfactory the wide-awake brother takes an unselfish look ahead. He studies the membership roll of the chapter and discovers whether graduation combined with the average absences of undergraduate brothers is likely at any time to leave the chapter numerically weak, and what may be done to anticipate and prevent this. Have the men who failed to attract attention the first year they were in college been neglected? Is it not true that every year men enter, who at first do not appear to be particularly brilliant, but who develop into excellent fraternity material?"

We quote also from an interesting article upon "The Fraternity Endowment Fund," and what may be expected from it when the active members shall receive the aid of the alumnae as a whole:

"The purpose of these paragraphs is to explain the important features of our system of finances designated as the "Endowment Fund," how it has been developed, what it is now accomplishing, and what is fairly to be expected from it. Especially, also, will be pointed out a method, believed to be practicable, whereby our alumni with a small (if at all representative) effort may, by this fund, make the fraternity a stronger institution, financially, than any college fraternity has yet, so far as is known by the writer, become."

The fund has grown out of the "Catalogue Sinking Fund," which "was established as a means of aiding to

place our catalogue and history of 1890, upon the market"; the "Chapter House Sinking Fund," which "was intended to provide for loans to those of our chapters which were planning to build chapter houses and had already made a considerable start"; and the "Railway Expense Sinking Fund," which was intended to pay the railway expenses of a delegate from each chapter to biennial grand chapters.

"Nothing, however, can explain the Endowment Fund as it stands better than the final legislation itself. I, therefore, append Art. XVIII of our new constitution as adopted at Nashville, and now in force:

ARTICLE XVIII.

Section 1. There shall be a permanent fund designated as the "Endowment Fund." All money coming into the possession of the Fraternity and not otherwise appropriated shall be carried into the Endowment Fund at the end of each college year.

Section 2. The Endowment Fund shall be used and employed only as follows:

First: In loans to chapters on good security to assist them in the acquisition of chapter houses and otherwise. The money on such loans, when repaid, to be returned to said fund.

Secondly: The income (but no part of the principal) may be used, in case of extreme need, to defray the legitimate expenses of the Fraternity.

The Grand Council, as a body corporate, shall be trustees to collect, hold and disburse all moneys coming into the Endowment Fund. They shall collect, hold or disburse the same, subject to the provisions of the Constitution, Statutes and Ritual of the Fraternity.

This fund received by direct legislation the sum of \$481.78 from the abolished Chapter-House Fund. It has also to its credit the nine hundred dollars formerly loaned from the old Chapter-House Fund, now drawing interest at 4 per cent. It also receives annually, by statute, all of the fees required to be paid into the General Fraternity treasury by initiates into active chapters. Such fees, at \$2.50 per initiate, amounted during the past fiscal year to \$622.50. It will be noted that the fund is thoroughly safe-guarded by the incorporation of the Fraternity's Grand Council, which, among other prescribed functions as a body corporate, holds the En-

dowment Fund and allied interests in trust for the Fraternity."

In the Christmas number of the *Kappa Alpha Journal* the first article is upon the catalogue that will soon be due, and treats of catalogues and catalogue making past and present. We quote the editor's new plan for dealing with chapter correspondents, but omit his comments, our readers know them by heart and can easily fill them in.

"The editor has a plan of his own for coercing chapter secretaries into obedience to their duties. It is this: Those chapters which fail to have a chapter letter in any issue of the Journal, no matter what may be the excuse, shall forfeit all right and claim to their quota of Journals for such issue and all copies of such issue which may be furnished a delinquent chapter shall be paid for extra in advance."

With the December number of the *Shield* of Theta Delta Chi, Mr. Clay W. Holmes, who has held his place as editor for ten years, takes leave of the work that he has so ably conducted for so long. Only the noblest and most self-sacrificing spirit of loyalty to his fraternity could have inspired a man to do the work that Mr. Holmes has done during these ten years of editorship, during which he virtually made the *Shield* and kept it in the very front rank of fraternity journalism. Everyone who knows the *Shield* is sorry to see Mr. Holmes leave it. We would like to quote entire the article on "The Greek Press," which reviews the history of fraternity journalism for the last quarter century, but lack of space forbids. A piece of work of considerable magnitude that appears in this last number of the volume, is a complete index for the last ten volumes.

NOTES AND CLIPPINGS.

Attention of each chapter is called to Section 17 of Article V, requiring record-books to be submitted in good form to the convention for examination. Each chapter should see that its delegates take charge of the record-book and bring it to the meeting.—II K. A. *Shield and Diamond*.

At first sight this provision struck us as somewhat needless, and as assuming that the chapters did not have capacity properly to keep their record-books. The more we reflect upon the matter, however, the more we like the scheme. If our delegates should bring their record-books to the conventions, what diverse MSS. would be exhibited! The delegates would get points of value from each other, and many interesting experiences would be exchanged.

The 1890 edition of Baird's *American College Fraternities* mentioned a sorority called P. E. O., which was said to have been in existence, chiefly in Iowa, for over twenty years which did not seem to be confined to collegiate institutions and which had an estimated membership of 1,500. The statistical tables of 1890 give the society five chapters, and a journal known as the P. E. O. *Record* is 'rumored' to exist. All mention of this society is omitted in the last edition of Mr. Baird's book. We are indebted to Bro. J. M. Beck, editor-in-chief of the *Iowa Wesleyan*, for the following interesting information in regard to this society:

P. E. O. is a sisterhood which has all the features of a Greek sorority and which, in addition, engages in charitable and philanthropic work. Iowa Wesleyan probably has the only college chapter. It was organized by seven girls in the university in 1869. It has grown until it has as many as a hundred chapters in at least eight different states, fifty-eight of these chapters being in Iowa. The college chapter here occupies the same position among the secret society people of the school as does Pi Beta Phi, and it is claimed that it has superior advantages from the fact that after school life is over one's activity is only well begun, as in the city chapters a high grade of literary work is done, as well as much charitable work. Burlington, Iowa, has a chapter of 70 members and Chicago one of about the same size. One of the founders is Mrs. Dr. C. G. Stafford, wife of the president of Iowa Wesleyan; another is Mrs. W. I. Babb, of Mt. Pleasant, who gave the address on P. E. O. day at the

Omaha exposition. At the time of its organization the I. C. sorosis (now Pi Beta Phi) was here in the school, and P. E. O. was designed as its rival. The badge is a gold star with the letters 'P. E. O.'

The three prizes in *The Century Magazine's* competition for the best story, poem and essay, open to students who received the degree of B.A. in 1897, have been won by young women, although more men than women entered the competition. Two of the prize-winners are Vassar graduates, and one is from Smith.

The report of the competition appears in the November *Century*, with the prize story, "A Question of Happiness," by Miss Grace M. Gallaher, of Essex, Ct., who was graduated at Vassar, B.A., 1897.

With the aim of encouraging literary activity among college graduates, *The Century* will continue to give annually three prizes of \$250 each, open to the competition of persons who receive the degree of Bachelor of Arts in any college or university in the United States, the work to be done within one year of graduation. The preliminary report of the competition includes the following paragraphs:

Since the first announcement of these prizes in the public press on July 24, 1897, letters have been received asking that the privileges of the competition be extended to persons receiving the degree of Ph. B. and B.L., on the ground that in certain cases they are equivalent to the degree of B.A. A similar request has also been made in behalf of graduates of the United States naval and military colleges. But, on careful consideration, it has been decided not to make any change in the present series of prizes, which will be awarded, as originally stated, to graduates receiving the degree of B.A.

The Century's offer naturally brings up consideration of the often-noticed fact that so few of our literary men, since the earlier days, have been college graduates. The editor some years ago made up a list of about forty of the then living prominent American authors. A very small proportion of these were found to be college graduates. The proportion of that class of writers appears to be gradually increasing; but if a list were made of a dozen or fifteen of the men and women now at the head of American literature, the public would be surprised to find that there were many more A.M.'s, L.H.D.'s, and LL.D.'s than B.A.'s among them.

The 1896 convention of Beta Theta Pi sanctioned a dispensation for the Rutgers chapter to initiate students in a

neighboring institution, supposed to be Princeton, where anti-fraternity laws have longed prevailed. A majority of the chapters in the district did not favor the project, and it was abandoned. It appeared from a letter in the *Beta Theta Pi*, some time since, that several other fraternities represented at Rutgers have *sub rosa* chapters in Princeton, which, however, are said not to be flourishing. The Princeton authorities are strangely inconsistent in prohibiting general fraternities from placing chapters there. The writer of an article about Princeton in *Scribner's Magazine* last year, showed that the Caxton Club, and other social organizations, are conducted on the same plan as chapters of fraternities, except that they are local.—*Phi Delta Theta Scroll.*